

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-04

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-11 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 /114 W

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P 100655Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3139

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 3222

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS ID

SUBJECT: LOS: U.S. - INDONESIAN DISCUSSIONS

REF: STATE 54588

1. WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT, GIVEN HISTORY OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOI, GNERAL DEMARCHE ON LOS ISSUES NEITHER NECESSARY NOR POSSIBLY DESIRABLE AT THIS TIME.

2. WE APPRECIATE THAT THERE ARE FAR MORE ASPECTS TO COMPLEX ISSUE OF LOS TREATY THAN WE ARE AWARE OF AT THIS POST. WE UNDERSTAND IMPORTANCE TO DEPARTMENT AND DOD OF ISSUES INVOLVED IN OUR DISCUSSION WITH INDONESIA. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO REALTIONS WITH INDONESIA ON LOS ISSUES BEFORE MARCH 15 CONFERENCE OPENS.

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3. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT U.S. ATTITUDE HAS MOVED FROM ORIGINAL HOPE THAT WE COULD MAKE ARRANGEMENT WITH INDONESIA (TYING RIGHT OF TRANSIT IN STRAITS TO RECOGNITION OF ARCHIPELAGO PRINCIPLE) TO POINT WHERE WE NOW CONSIDER INDONESIA AMONG PRINCIPAL ANTAGONISTS ON LOS MATTERS.

4. OUR IMPRESSION HERE, HOWEVER, IS THAT WE MAY NOT BE AS FAR APART AS SEEMS. IF WE UNDERSTAND SITUATION CORRECTLY, PRINCIPAL STICKING POINTS ARE (1) AGREEMENT ON RELATIONSHIP OF STRAITS TRANSIT TO ARCHIPELAGIC TRANSIT AND (2) DIMENSION OF SEA LANES AND AIR LANES.

5. WE SEE LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION WITH INDONESIANS UNLESS WE MOVE OR APPEAR TO MOVE CLOSER TO THEIR POSITION ACCEPTANCE OF ARCHIPELAGO PRINCIPLE IS PARAMOUNT INDONESIAN INTEREST IN CURRENT LOS DISCUSSIONS. IF THIS IS NOT LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED, THERE IS LITTLE POSSIBILITY THEY WILL BE FORTHCOMING ON OTHER ISSUES. IF WE, AMONG MAJOR MARITIME POWERS, APPEAR TO BE MOST NEGATIVE ON ARCHIPELAGO, WE SHALL ALSO INCUR SOME POLITICAL DAMAGE.

6. IF ASSESSMENT OF PROXIMITY OF OUR POSITIONS IS CORRECT, THEN I BELIEVE WE SHOULD ASK OURSELVES WHETHER WE CANNOT FORM MORE POSITIVE APPROACH. SOVIETS HAVE ALLEGEDLY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO SUPPORT ARCHIPELAGIC PRINCIPLE SUBJECT " TO WORKING OUT CERTAIN MODALITIES". IN INDONESIAN EYES THIS IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM U.S. POSITION WHICH SEEMS TO SAY: " WHEN YOU AGREE WITH OUR DEFINITION OF ARCHIPELAGO WE WILL THEN CONSIDER WHETHER WE CAN SUPPORT IT."

7. WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED ON PROBLEMS OF DEALING WITH MINISTER OF JUSTICE MOCHTAR. HE IS NONEHELESS RESPONSIBLE INDONESIAN OFFICIAL. IF WE SHOULD AMEND OUR POSITION, HOWEVER,. IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO KNOW THIS DIRECTLY.

8. IF INDONESIAN POSITION IS IMPORTANT TO US, I WOULD THEN SUGGEST THAT I BE AUTHORIZED TO TRANSMIT ORAL OR CONFIDENTIAL

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WRITTEN MESSAGE TO MINISTER OF STATE SUDHARMONO WHICH WOULD REFER TO SUBJECT BEING RAISED BY SUHARTO AT CAMP DAVID MEETING WITH PRESIDENT, INDICATING OUR RECOGNITION OF ITS IMPORTANCE TO INDONESIA AND IMPORTANCE OF AGREEMENT ON TREATY FOR WHOLE WORLD. MESSAGE COULD THEN INDICATE OUR READINESS IN CONTEXT OVERALL LOS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT ARCHIPELAGIC PRINCIPLE ON BASIS SAME TRANSIT REGIME AS MAY BE AGREED UPON FOR STRAITS AND ON WORKING OUT SATIS-

FACTORY AGREEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON DEFINITION
OF SEA AND AIR LANES.

9. IF WE COULD FIND MORE FORTHCOMING POSITION, PARTICULARLY ONE WHICH INDONESIA COULD PICTURE AS A MOVE IN THEIR DIRECTION, I BELEIVE THERE SI CHANCE CURRENT IMPASSE COULD BE BROKEN. MOVEMENT ON OUR PART MIGHT ALSO HAVE AFFECT ON PHILLIPINES OR AT LEAST ENCOURAGE INDONESIANS TO PROCEED WITHOUT WAITING FOR PHILLIPPINE AGREEMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, POLICIES, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JAKART03222
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760090-0529
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760377/aaaacphp.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OFA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 54588
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: U.S. - INDONESIAN DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: PLOS, ID, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006